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HB 1420 HD1 RELATING TO THE EXPORT OF AQUARIUM FISH

Statement for
Senate Committee on
Energy and Natural Resources
Public Hearing - March 20, 1989

By
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HB 1420 HD 1 would amend Chapter 188 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to direct the Department of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules for monitoring the export of aquarium fish.

Our statement of this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

We assume that the present permit system for the capture and sale of aquarium fish under HRS 188-31 does not provide sufficient statutory language to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to allow them to require specific reporting mechanisms for the numbers of aquarium fish taken. Such information is certainly needed if informed management of the fishery resource is to be expected. Hence we concur with the intent and purpose of HB 1420.

The Environmental Center submitted testimony on HB 1420 at a previous hearing before the House Committee on Ocean and Marine Resources. We concur with the intent of the amendment now proposed in HD 1 but would suggest the following amendment to lines 9 and 10:

"A monthly count of the individuals of each species of aquarium fish exported shall be reported to the board."